California Regional Water Quality Control Board North Coast Region

Cease and Desist Order No. 98-126 I.D. No. 1B84083OMEN

Requiring The Fort Bragg Municipal Improvement District No. 1
To Cease And Desist From Discharging Waste Contrary To Requirements Prescribed By
The North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board

Mendocino County

The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, North Coast Region (hereinafter the Regional Water Board), finds that:

- 1. On June 22, 1995, the Regional Water Board adopted Order No. 95-47, NPDES Permit No. CA0023078, Waste Discharge Requirements for the Fort Bragg Municipal Improvement District No. 1 (District), Fort Bragg Wastewater Treatment and Disposal Facilities. Order No. 95-47 includes Effluent Limitations that must be met before treated wastewater from the Fort Bragg Treatment Plant can be discharged to the Pacific Ocean.
- 2. At the present time, the District is under Cease and Desist Order No. 97-2 issued by the Regional Water Board. This Order requires the District to repair and/or replace the biological treatment units at the Fort Bragg Wastewater Treatment Plant to ensure consistent compliance with Waste Discharge Requirements. Repairs to one of the treatment units has already occurred. However, the level of treatment performance has not improved as expected. While assessing the performance of the repaired unit, the District is evaluating alternatives to the repair of the second unit, and is determining a superior means of treatment to ensure consistent compliance with Waste Discharge Requirements.
- 3. The City of Fort Bragg has hired a consultant who is evaluating modifications to the treatment plant (a second digester, filtration facilities and ultraviolet light disinfection) that will provide the District with the ability to consistently comply with waste discharge requirements.
- 4. Pursuant to Section 15321, Title 14, California Code of Regulations, this is an enforcement action for the protection of the environment and as such is exempt from the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act.
- 5. On December 10, 1998, after due notice to the discharger and all other affected persons, the Regional Water Board conducted a public hearing and evidence was received regarding this Cease and Desist Order.

THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Cease and Desist Order No. 97-2 is rescinded and the Fort Bragg Municipal Improvement District No. 1 shall comply with the following time schedule:

Task

Compliance Date

Submit to the Regional Water Board an adequate report that details proposed treatment plant modifications with an implementation schedule to ensure consistent compliance with waste discharge requirements.

March 1, 1999

Certification

I, Lee A. Michlin, Executive Officer, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true, and correct copy of an Order adopted by the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, North Coast Region, on December 10, 1998.

Lee A. Michlin
Executive Officer

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